

Portfolio of

AMERICAN AGRICULTURE

Harvesting crops,
young people playing in a potato field,
a magnificent mountain range,
gathering sheep in a winter storm...

These images captured by the photographer and artist on film and canvas
show a few aspects of the industry, spirit, dedication and beauty
of American agriculture.

Each image carries its own story.

There is an instant during a corn harvest when the rumble of the engine
breaks the morning silence as a farmer maneuvers the combine, watching
mechanical fingers skim along just inches above the ground.

When the camera shutter turns heavy snowflakes into blurred white streaks
one can sense the cold and feel the farmer's commitment to see his farm
animals through another bitter winter.

A vast lush rural landscape appears to be faultless when seen from afar
in an airplane. But in order to turn the beautiful picture into an
agricultural success, the farmer on that land, like most of America's
farmers, must be concerned about plant diseases, attacks by insects,
conserving his soil, and the real return on his investment at market time.

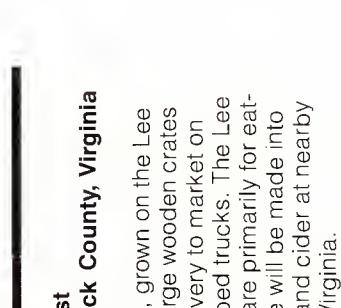
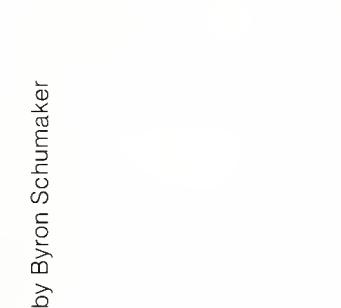
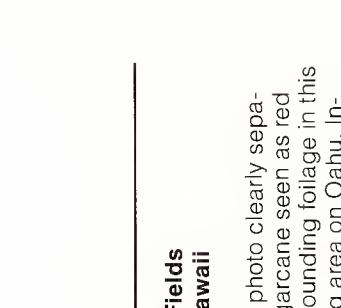
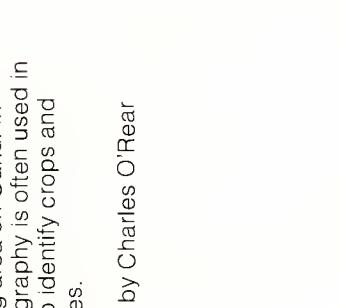
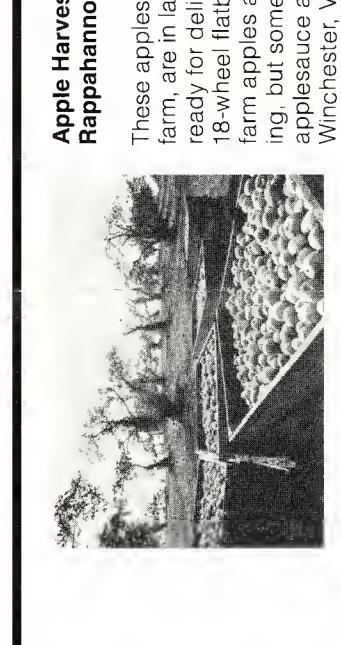
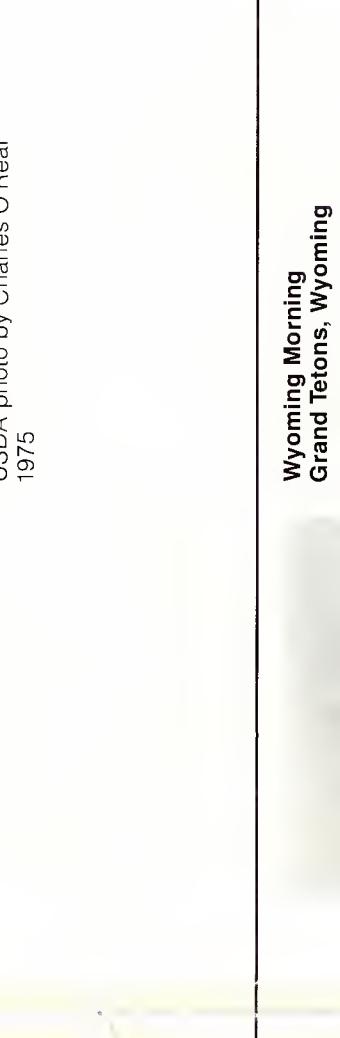
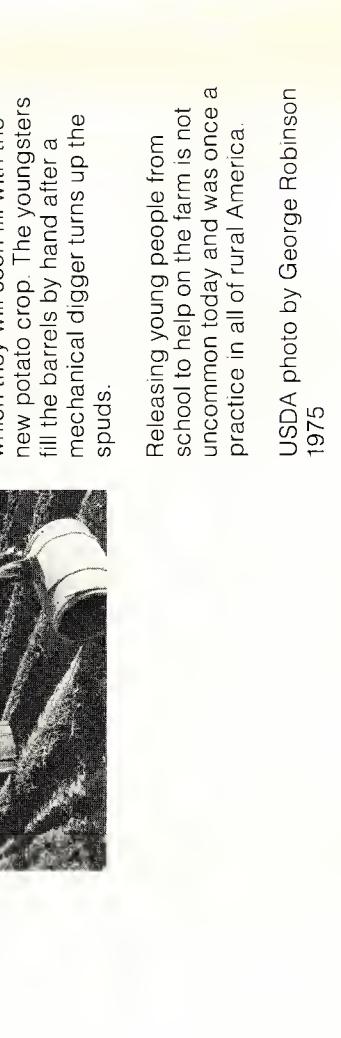
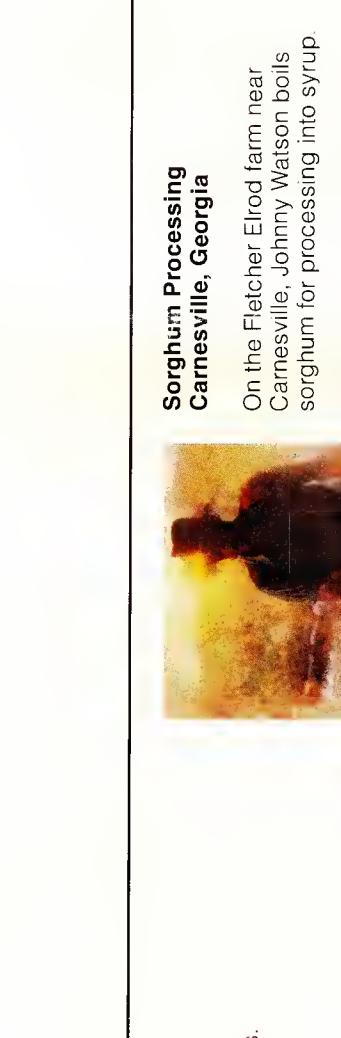
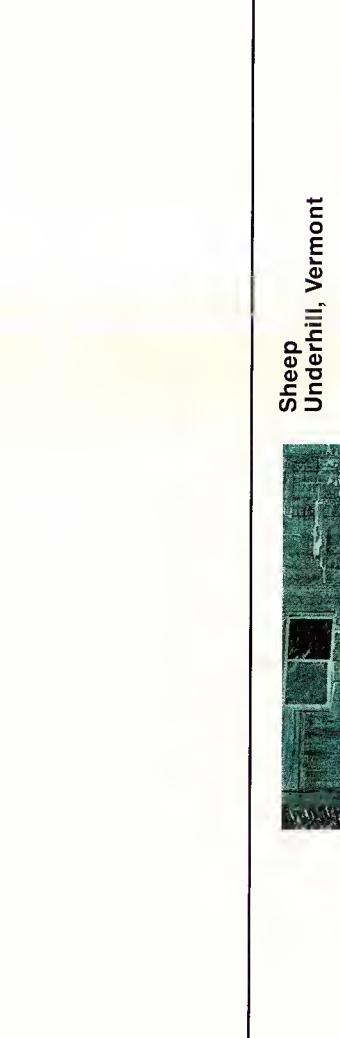
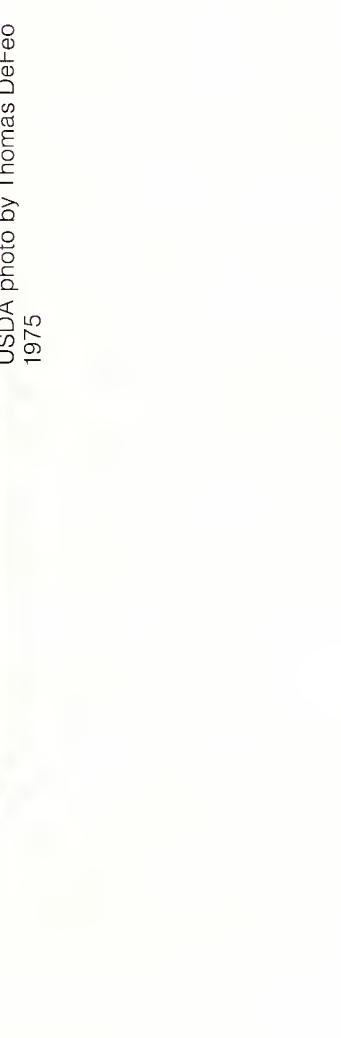
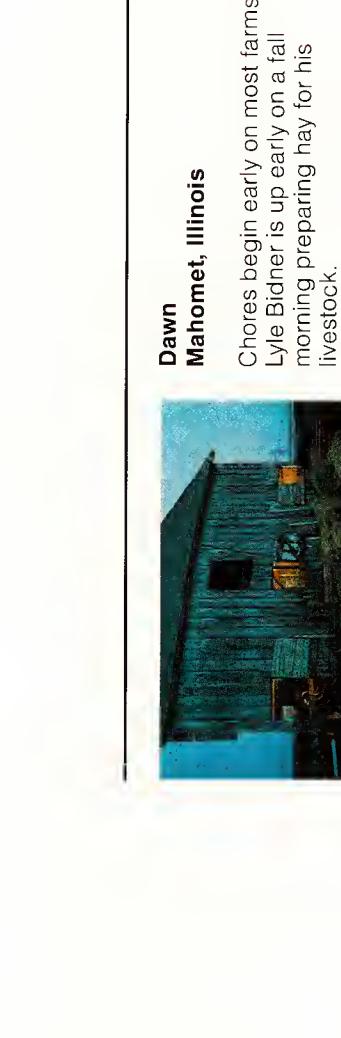
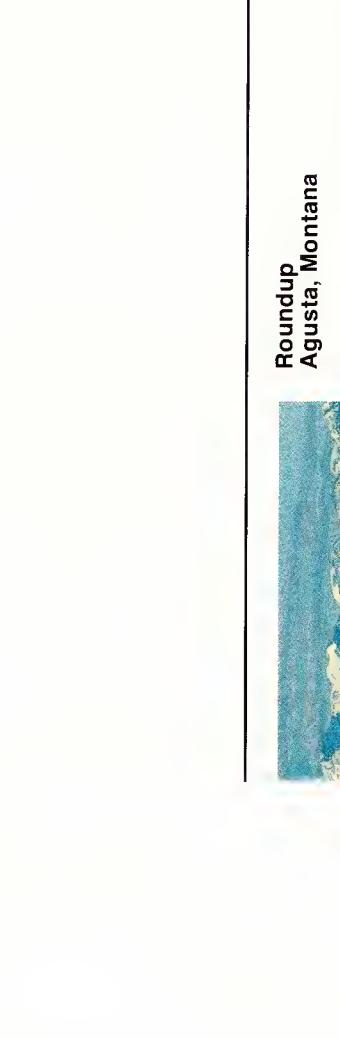
Within these images one sees the result of years of planning, seasons
of frustration and dedication to research that go toward making better
products—the food and fiber—by the people that help transform it all
into the wonder of American agriculture.

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Credits

<p>Landscape West Concord, Minnesota</p>  <p>The soybean and dairy country in southeastern Minnesota makes a lasting impression on visitors. A mud flat, a river, and a road are visible in the foreground. The background shows rolling hills and a small town.</p> <p>Photo by David Granahan 1975</p>	<p>Mountain of Corn Clay County, Iowa</p>  <p>At the Land-O-Lakes Co-op in Clay County, Oscar Moore stands atop 350,000 bushels of dried corn. The 65-foot high stack of the crop reached higher than 20 feet and covered an area nearly as large as a football field.</p> <p>USDA photo by Thomas DeFeo 1975</p>	<p>Southwest Impression Colorado Plateau</p>  <p>The rich colors and rugged terrain of the American Southwest make a lasting impression on visitors. The Colorado Plateau is a region of high plateaus, deep canyons, and mesas.</p> <p>Artist, Michael David Brown 1980</p>	<p>Apple Harvest Reappahannock County, Virginia</p>  <p>These apples, grown on the Lee farm, are in large wooden crates ready to deliver to market on 15-wheel flatbed trucks. The Lee farm is one of the oldest in the area, and some of the trees have been in the family for more than 100 years.</p> <p>USDA photo by Byron Schumaker 1975</p>	<p>United States Department of Agriculture</p> <p>Concept James C. Webster</p> <p>Visual research and editing David Sutton</p> <p>Design Byron Schumaker</p> <p>Photography Sara Tweede</p> <p>Printing direction Warren Bell</p> <p>Paintings Jim Schleyer/Rural Farm</p> <p>Grateful assistance from Michael David Brown/Southwest Impression</p> <p>How to order Claude Gilford, George Bako, David Warren</p> <p>The Portfolio of American Agriculture Theodore Thomas, Robert Hallock, Jim Schleyer, Al Senter, and the agencies of the United States Department of Agriculture.</p> <p>How to order The Superintendent of Documents is for sale by the Superintendent of Documents. To obtain the current purchase price, ordering, and payment instructions, please write to the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.</p>
<p>The Flag Kossuth County, Iowa</p>  <p>To celebrate the Nation's birthday, Tom Borman had the flag painted on a side of his corn crib. Such expressions were typical of the creative care during the homestead period.</p> <p>USDA photo by Thomas DeFeo 1975</p>	<p>Super Cabbage Palmer, Alaska</p>  <p>Ray Rebarink looks over his cabbage patch, which averages about 55 pounds a season in August. The plastic mulch that keeps the soil moist and reduces loss of fertilizer by leaching, Alaska's short nights and long days, and the long growing season make the 16-cabbage patch the world's record of 74 pounds.</p> <p>USDA photo by Charles O'Rear 1975</p>	<p>Sugarcane Fields Pearl City, Hawaii</p>  <p>This infrared photo clearly separates the sugarcane seen as red from the surrounding foliage in this field. The infrared film is often used in agriculture to identify crops and plant diseases.</p> <p>USDA photo by Charles O'Rear 1975</p>	<p>The Palouse Pacific Northwest</p>  <p>The region where eastern Washington, northeastern Idaho, and northwestern Oregon merge is about 15 million acres of hill country where barley, peas, lentils, and wheat grow in abundance. The Palouse yields more wheat per acre and commands higher prices than any other region in the United States.</p> <p>USDA photo by Doug Wilson 1980</p>	<p>Wyoming Morning Grand Teton, Wyoming</p>  <p>A sedentary barn and corral await cows and ranch hands as sunrise uncovers the Teton Mountain range. Cattle roundups are still going on many ranches in the West.</p> <p>USDA photo by Jonathan Wright 1975</p>
<p>Harvest Break Presque Isle, Maine</p>  <p>Playing before their work day begins, young people in these Maine potato fields roll out the barrels and lay them on the ground to rest. The potato vines are trained to grow in a circle, so the vines will not tangle when the barrels are rolled.</p> <p>USDA photo by George Robinson 1975</p>	<p>Sorghum Processing Camden, Georgia</p>  <p>On the Fletcher Fried farm near Camden, Johnny Wilson boils sorghum for processing into syrup. Sorghum canes are then ground and crushed. The juice is boiled for several hours in a 40- by 20-foot tank to remove the pulp. The juice is then boiled in a bitter tasting syrup to distill the corn whiskey.</p> <p>USDA photo by Ray Lustig 1975</p>	<p>Harvest Break West Concord, Minnesota</p>  <p>Playing before their work day begins, young people in these West Concord potato fields roll out the barrels and lay them on the ground to rest. The potato vines are trained to grow in a circle, so the vines will not tangle when the barrels are rolled.</p> <p>USDA photo by George Robinson 1975</p>	<p>Cotton Harvesting Wenona, Georgia</p>  <p>Large mechanical pickers, like this one operating in a field of Georgia cotton, have a capacity of 100 bales of cotton per hour. Each picker can pick as much cotton as a dozen pickers can by hand in 3 days. But it takes 100 acres of one-bale-to-the-acre cotton to make a mechanical picker pay off.</p> <p>USDA photo by Ray Lustig 1975</p>	<p>Sheep Underhill, Vermont</p>  <p>Part-time farmer Robin Noland raises a small flock of Angora goats. She breeds them for meat and fiber. For meat, the fiber is not important. Shearing the sheep do not require a lot of labor, and they work usually live planned when other crops are not available. No lamb meat is eaten, however, because it is too tough to eat. When it is harvested through October, then a little grain.</p> <p>USDA photo by George Robinson 1977</p>
<p>Dawn Mahomet, Illinois</p>  <p>Chores begin early on most farms. Lyle Bader is up early on a fall morning, preparing his day for his livestock.</p> <p>Photo by William Kuykendall 1975</p>	<p>Roundup Augusta, Montana</p>  <p>On the plains beneath Montana's rugged Rocky Mountains, ranchers drive their cattle across the land to a waterhole during roundup time.</p> <p>USDA photo by Lowell Georgia 1975</p>	<p>Roundup Agassiz, Montana</p>  <p>On the plains beneath Montana's rugged Rocky Mountains, ranchers drive their cattle across the land to a waterhole during roundup time.</p> <p>USDA photo by Lowell Georgia 1975</p>	<p>Mountain Snow Sawtooth National Forest, Idaho</p>  <p>In central Idaho, just north of the Sawtooth Valley, the Sawtooth Mountains tower along the horizon. The snow-covered peaks are a major attraction for skiers in the Sawtooth National Forest. The scenic beauty of these mountains is one of the reasons many visitors flock to Sun Valley for winter recreation.</p> <p>USDA photo by the Forest Service 1978</p>	<p>Roundup Homestead, Montana</p>  <p>The early autumn sun highlights tomatoes, watermelons, and other items still hanging on the tobacco farm in Maryland.</p> <p>USDA photo by Ray Lustig 1975</p>
<p>Mountain of Corn Evans, Iowa</p>  <p>At the Land-O-Lakes Co-op in Clay County, Oscar Moore stands atop 350,000 bushels of dried corn. The 65-foot high stack of the crop reached higher than 20 feet and covered an area nearly as large as a football field.</p> <p>USDA photo by Thomas DeFeo 1975</p>	<p>Roundup Augusta, Montana</p>  <p>On the plains beneath Montana's rugged Rocky Mountains, ranchers drive their cattle across the land to a waterhole during roundup time.</p> <p>USDA photo by Lowell Georgia 1975</p>	<p>Roundup Underhill, Vermont</p>  <p>Part-time farmer Robin Noland raises a small flock of Angora goats. She breeds them for meat and fiber. For meat, the fiber is not important. Shearing the sheep do not require a lot of labor, and they work usually live planned when other crops are not available. No lamb meat is eaten, however, because it is too tough to eat. When it is harvested through October, then a little grain.</p> <p>USDA photo by George Robinson 1977</p>	<p>Mountain Snow Sawtooth National Forest, Idaho</p>  <p>In central Idaho, just north of the Sawtooth Valley, the Sawtooth Mountains tower along the horizon. The snow-covered peaks are a major attraction for skiers in the Sawtooth National Forest. The scenic beauty of these mountains is one of the reasons many visitors flock to Sun Valley for winter recreation.</p> <p>USDA photo by the Forest Service 1978</p>	<p>Roundup Homestead, Montana</p>  <p>The early autumn sun highlights tomatoes, watermelons, and other items still hanging on the tobacco farm in Maryland.</p> <p>USDA photo by Ray Lustig 1975</p>
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